Loudoun County Office of the Sheriff

2003 Annual Report



Stephen O. Simpson-Sheriff



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

A Virginia Accredited Agency

June 2004

To the Citizens of Loudoun County,

Since 1757 the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office has served the county of Loudoun and its residents. The area and this office have seen major changes since those early days when life in Loudoun was simple.

Early Sheriff's conducted all of their business in the courthouse constructed in Leesburg in 1761. The courthouse was the first of three constructed in downtown Leesburg and was in the same area as where the court's facility now stands today. In the late 1700's the Sheriff alone oversaw a county having a population of 18,962 people, one the most populous counties in Virginia at the time.

Today the Sheriff's Office employs over 340 sworn and 90 civilian personnel with a county a population of approximately 225,930 people.

A lot has changed since those early times but the ideals of the Sheriff's Office have remained the same. The Sheriff's Office is dedicated to providing effective and efficient law enforcement services; protecting the lives and property of the citizens of Loudoun County; and ensuring the protection of all persons constitutional rights.

The men and women of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office are committed to serving the people of Loudoun County. We welcome your input and hope the information contained in this annual report is helpful.

Stephen O. Simpson

Loudoun County Sheriff

Stephy OSingson

Mission Statement: The Sheriff's Office exists to ensure the safety of, and provide the highest quality service to, the citizens of Loudoun County. This is achieved by maintaining a high degree of professionalism in all services undertaken by this office to include: the prevention of crime; the successful investigation of crimes; the diligent enforcement of traffic laws; the promotion of public safety through community education; the provision of humane and secure correctional services for those persons remanded to the custody of this Office; the provision of courtroom and courthouse security and service of legal process; and contribution to the swift and impartial adjudication of all criminal and civil matters before the court.

The Sheriff is a constitutional officer by virtue of the Virginia Constitution, Article VII, Section 4. The Sheriff is elected every four years and has responsibilities, which are outlined by the General Assembly in the form of State statutes.

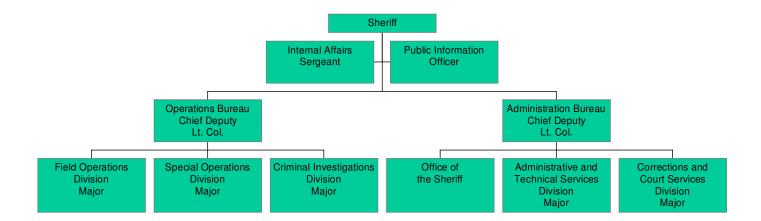
The Sheriff and Sheriff's Deputies have criminal and civil jurisdiction and are empowered to enforce the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the ordinances of Loudoun County. These powers may be exercised on any property within Loudoun County.

The Sheriff's Office provides service to the entire population of Loudoun County. The Sheriff's Office consists of an Administration Bureau and an Operations Bureau Contained within the Administration Bureau are the Office of the Sheriff's administrative functions, the Corrections/Court Security Division and the Administrative/Technical Services Division.

Contained within the Operations Bureau are the Field Operations Division, Criminal Investigations Division and Special Operations Division.

The Office of the Sheriff oversees the activities and programs of all divisions. The Office of the Sheriff consists of the Sheriff, two Chief Deputies, Internal Affairs, Budget, Human Resources, Purchasing, Public Information Officer, Departmental Planner and an Administrative Assistant.





Vision:

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office will provide essential law enforcement; court security and detention services through objective and impartial enforcement of law and compliance with established regulations. Using both proven and advanced methods in conjunction with effective partnerships with the community, the quality of life in Loudoun County will be enhanced and the incidence of crime diminished.

Values:

Honesty, integrity and impartiality form the core values of the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office. Professional standards are maintained through intensive up-to-date training and the use of state-of-the-art technologies to ensure the best service is provided to our citizens. Partnerships with neighborhoods are critical to understanding localized problems and developing solutions. Resources are utilized in the most efficient and effective manner to ensure maximum services are achieved for each tax dollar. Accountability to our community is essential to maintaining public trust.

Goals:

Match department personnel to the needs of the community on an on-going basis through maximum use of existing resources and the acquisition of additional resources through the budget and other financial sources.

- Expand community policing to all areas of the County and infuse this philosophy into all facets of the department.
- Establish and enhance community-based police services through strategically placed facilities and decentralization of specific functions.
- Acquire and integrate new technologies to more effectively and efficiently provide services.
- Reduce the incidence of crime through innovative and aggressive techniques, educational programs, and other intervention strategies.



Deputy Michael Hall of the Community Policing Unit speaks with a business owner in the Sterling Park Mall



Reduce the incidence of fatalities, injuries and property damage on roads through aggressive enforcement, educational programs and coordination with highway construction and traffic safety professionals.

(Left) A member of the Sheriff's Office Traffic Safety Unit uses federally funded Thermal Imagers to detect defective brakes and remove unsafe trucks from county roadways.

• Maintain preparedness for emergencies through cooperation and coordination with local, state and federal agencies and through regional preparedness plans.

Year in Review

Cold Case Solved

In January Sheriff's Office Investigators were able to identify a homicide victim dating back to 1996. Early attempts to identify the body fell short; ultimately investigators were successful in identifying the body as Jack Watkins through military records.

Their subsequent investigation revealed the diversion of Social Security payments from the deceased, and a joint investigation was launched between federal agencies and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

In August a female acquaintance of the victim was arrested and charged with bank fraud, mail and wire fraud, and theft from a government program.

She now faces further charges surrounding the death of Jack Watkins.

Court Security

Also in January the Sheriff's Office Court Security Section began screening all visitors conducting business within the Courthouse. The checkpoint, located near the King Street entrance, screens large bags by a x-ray scanner and hand searches small personal belongings, as visitors are walking through a magnetometer.

In less then a month over 100 items had already been recovered or surrendered to the unit. Items confiscated range from tweezers and nail files to large knives.

Ganging Up on Gangs

In July Federal law enforcement agencies and local and state officials from the 10th Congressional District formally announced the implementation of a new gang task force.

The multi-jurisdictional task force connects law enforcement agencies from the counties of Loudoun, Fairfax, and Prince William, the towns of Leesburg and Herndon, the cities of Manassas and Manssas Park and several federal agencies. In its first six months, the 10th Congressional District Gang Task Force netted 65 felony arrests and 137 misdemeanor arrests.

Hurricane Isabel

In September, Hurricane Isabel swept through the County and left significant damage and severe flooding in her wake. Deputies were kept busy with power outages, downed trees and the closure of

numerous routes that transit Loudoun, including both Route 15 and Route 50. Several days would pass before water levels diminished, debris was cleared and bridge repairs were accomplished. Subsequent rains were literally felt in the Sheriff's Office, with a ceiling collapse and flooding of the administrative and Criminal Investigations offices.



Investigator Ron Weckenman Surveys the Damage from the Extensive Rains

The extensive damage required closure of the building and a move to temporary quarters in Sterling. Through the exceptional effort of departmental employees, this move was accomplished within several days and with little disruption in service to the public.

Major Accomplishments

- Recognized by Wal-Mart for benefits to the community.
- Sheriff appointed by the Va. Attorney General to the State Anti-Gang Task Force.
- Recognized for Neighborhood Watch efforts by U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft in 2002.
- Maintained accredited status by the State of Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission since 1999.

Special recognition our employees have received

- 2 graduates from the FBI National Academy (Majors Waddell & Beardsley).
- Deputy R. Broaddus for Excellence in Public Safety by MADD and ASAP.
- Deputies Merchant & Lunsford for Special Service for actions during a severe snowstorm.
- Deputies Rzonca, Gilligan and

Willis for achieving top honors in the Criminal Justice Academy.

• Deputy Thomas for correctional employee of the year.

A recent department survey instruments and results show customer satisfaction levels.

The most recent survey was conducted in 2002 and reflected the findings of earlier surveys in regard to the Sheriff's Office. 97% responded they felt safe in their neighborhoods, and 88% reported that they were satisfied with the services they received.

Improvements to service delivery over the last year.

Patrol sector redesign to more efficiently deploy patrol resources. Electronic offense reporting to reduce deputy paperwork and allow more patrol time.

Grant funding to specifically fund additional DUI checkpoints and aggressive driving patrols.

Expanded the auxiliary program to augment sworn resources.

Increased the number of Neighborhood Watches to enhance safety and security in communities.

Established the bait car program to deter auto theft and more efficiently utilize investigative personnel.

Initiated the Citizen Alert System.

Facilities

The unprecedented growth in Loudoun County, along with the increased traffic volume, has led to modifications in the methods of deployment utilized by the department. Several locations were established to serve as substations and place deputies closer to the communities they serve, thereby augmenting our community policing objectives.

The success of community-based facilities has resulted in the need for larger facilities designed for law enforcement use. Through the Capital Improvement Plan, facility needs have been identified to support our future requirements.

- Dulles South Combined Sheriff/Fire & Rescue Station Located in the South Riding area, the Sheriff's portion will consist of approximately 13,000 square feet and incorporate a community room.
- Broadlands Combined Sheriff/Fire & Rescue Station Located in the Moorefield Station development, the facility will have approximately 250 square feet for use as a deputy workroom.
- Brambleton Combined Sheriff/Fire & Rescue Station Although a site has not been selected, this substation is

- envisioned to have a deputy workroom, interview room and other functional areas.
- Route 28 Corridor Substation to replace the current University Heights Station in Ashburn. A site has not been selected.
- Lansdowne Combined Sheriff/Fire & Rescue Station A site has not been selected for this facility, however, it is planned to incorporate a deputy workroom.
- Western Loudoun Sheriff's Office Substation. A site has not been selected for this facility, but it is envisioned to serve as a full-service substation similar to Dulles South.

In addition to the substations, a new Sheriff's Administration building is planned. This facility is to replace the rental space currently occupied in a converted former bowling alley. It will be located on County owned property near Leesburg Airport and adjacent to the new Adult Detention Center.

Construction of a new Adult Detention Center (ADC) is scheduled to begin in 2004 and will replace the old jail that was constructed in 1953. Although it was intended to relieve severe overcrowding conditions, it will likely need expansion shortly after opening because of the rapidly increasing number of prisoners. The ADC was planned with expansion in mind to accommodate this eventuality.



Finally, there is a critical need for an upgraded firearm training facility. The current range is not only antiquated but also unsuitable for realistic and effective training. Plans to identify and purchase a suitable location are included in the six-year plan.

Demographics

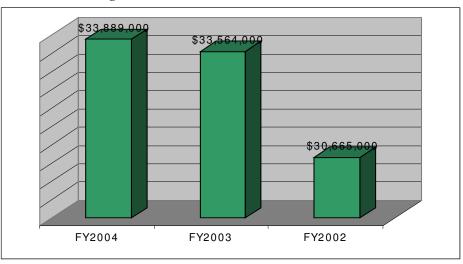
Loudoun County is the fastest growing county in the United States. According to recent reports, the population has increased by 30% since 2000. Although the increased need for law enforcement and correctional services has challenged the ability of the Sheriff's Office to maintain its high level of service to the citizenry, department employees have been up to the task, and has done so with an extremely low deputy to population ratio.

| DEMOGRAPHICS | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Loudoun County Data | FY2004 | FY2003 | FY2002 |
| Service Population* | 191,850 | 183,904 | 171,000 |
| Square Miles | 515 | 515 | 515 |
| | | | |
| Budget | | | |
| Total Sheriff's Office Budget | \$33,889,000 | \$33,564,000 | \$30,665,000 |
| Per Capita Cost** | \$176.64 | \$182.51 | \$179.33 |
| | | | |
| Staffing | | | |
| Total Authorized Personnel | 495 | 464 | 458 |
| Total Authorized Sworn Personnel | 351 | 332 | 327 |
| Total Authorized Civilian Personnel*** | 144 | 132 | 131 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| *Excludes Town of Leesburg | | | |
| **Based on Service Population ***Includes 62 Part-time Crossing Guard Position | nns | | |
| molades of rail lime orossing dualar ositic | 7113 | | |

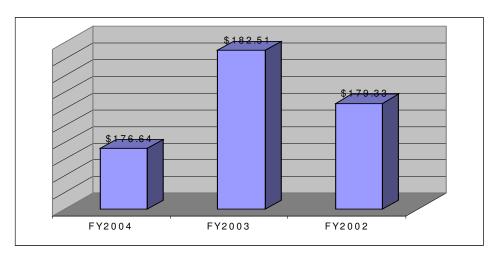
| FIELD DEPUTIES PER 1,000 POPULATION | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------|--|--|--|
| | FY2004 FY2003 FY2002 | | | | | |
| # Sworn | 147 | 139 | 137 | | | |
| Population | 191,850 | 183,904 | 171,000 | | | |
| Ratio/1000 | 0.77 | 0.76 | 0.80 | | | |

Sheriff's Office Budget

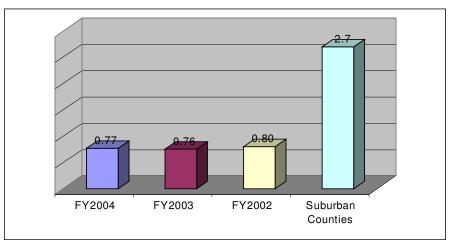
Overall Budget



Per Capita Cost

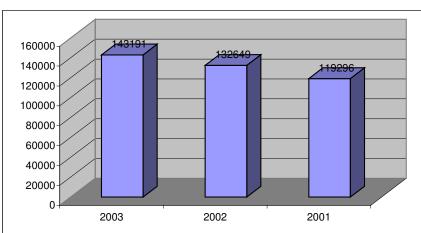


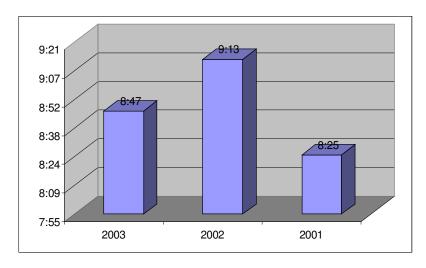
Ratio of Deputies to Population

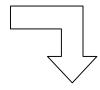


| Calls for Police Service | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 |
| Calls for Service | 143191 | 132649 | 127011 |









| Response Time | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Emergency Response Time | 8:47 | 9:13 | 8:25 |
| Non-Emergency Response Time | 10:49 | 11:02 | 10:40 |

Crime Statistics

The following pages contain various statistical data including crime statistics for Loudoun County.

Crime statistics in Loudoun County are tracked in accordance with the national standards administrated by the Federal Bureau of Investigations Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

The UCR Program is a nationwide cooperative statistical effort of over 17,000 city, county, and state law enforcement agencies voluntarily reporting data on crimes brought to their attention.

The program's main objective is to generate a reliable set of criminal

statistics for use in law enforcement and has become one of the country's leading social indicators.

UCR Crimes are divided into three parts. PART I offenses include murder, forcible sexual offenses, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. PART II offenses encompass nineteen additional types of crime ranging from simple assault to fraud, forgery, and disorderly conduct. PART III offenses are all other crime classifications outside those defined as PART I and PART II offenses.

UCR allows citizens to easily compare crime statistics where they live to those of surrounding counties and cities.

This report presents basic statistics for the county as a whole.

| Index Crimes | | | | |
|---------------------|------|------|------|---------------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | % Change, 2001-2003 |
| Homicide | 1 | 3 | 6 | -83.33% |
| Rape | 31 | 34 | 32 | -3.13% |
| Robbery | 44 | 45 | 34 | 29.41% |
| Aggravated Assault | 138 | 164 | 160 | -13.75% |
| Burglary | 357 | 269 | 306 | 16.67% |
| Larceny | 2904 | 2625 | 2664 | 9.01% |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 202 | 166 | 177 | 14.12% |
| Total | 3674 | 3306 | 3379 | 8.73% |

| | 0000 | 0000 | 0/ O b an ex- |
|---------------------|--------|--------|----------------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 | % Change |
| Service Population | 183904 | 164730 | 11.5% |
| Homicide | 0.01 | 0.02 | -69.01% |
| Rape | 0.17 | 0.20 | -15.22% |
| Robbery | 0.24 | 0.26 | -9.08% |
| Aggravated Assault | 0.75 | 0.96 | -21.76% |
| Burglary | 1.94 | 1.57 | 23.40% |
| Larceny | 15.79 | 15.35 | 2.87% |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 1.10 | 0.97 | 13.15% |
| Index Rate per 1000 | 19.98 | 20.07 | 3.33% |

| Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Population | | | | | |
|---|------|-----------|----------------------|--|--|
| | LCSO | LCSO Rate | Suburban County Rate | | |
| Homicide | 1 | 0.55 | 4.4 | | |
| Rape | 31 | 17.03 | 28 | | |
| Robbery | 44 | 24.18 | 94 | | |
| Aggravated Assault | 138 | 75.82 | 276.8 | | |
| Burglary | 357 | 196.15 | 674.2 | | |
| Larceny | 2904 | 1595.58 | 1951.7 | | |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 202 | 110.99 | 336.1 | | |
| Total | 3677 | 2020.30 | 3365.2 | | |

Traffic Research

Every year the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Traffic Research Analyst compiles the top ten most dangerous intersections* in the County.

The annual study shows Route 28 and Church Road/Waxpool Road as the most dangerous intersection in the county. In previous years, dating back to 1998, the intersection had been consistently ranked as one of the top two accident locations.

The study also finds several intersections along Route 7 have seen an increase in

accidents. Potomac View Road at Route 7 saw nearly a 10% increase in accidents in 2003. The intersection of Route 7 and Ashburn Road rose to 76 accidents in 2003, up nearly 9% from the previous year. And Ashburn Village Boulevard and Route 7 returned to the top ten after seeing a decrease in accidents in 2002.

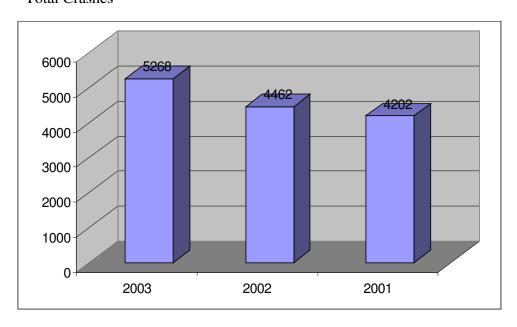
Interchanges at the intersections of Route 28 and Church Road and Route 28 and Route 606 are currently under construction. These improvements are expected to significantly reduce auto accidents and alleviate traffic flow issues.

| 2003 | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Roadway/Intersection | No. of Accidents |
| Rt. 28 & Church Rd./ Waxpool Rd. | 93 |
| Rt. 7 & Potomac View Rd. | 78 |
| Rt. 7 & Ashburn Rd./Lansdowne Blvd. | 76 |
| Rt. 7 & Belmont Ridge Rd. | 59 |
| Rt. 28 & Old Ox Rd. | 57 |
| Rt. 7 & CountrySide Blvd. | 48 |
| Rt. 7 & Sterling Blvd. | 48 |
| Rt. 28 & Sterling Blvd. | 42 |
| Rt. 28 & Rt. 7 | 41 |
| Rt. 7 & Ashburn Village Blvd. | 40 |

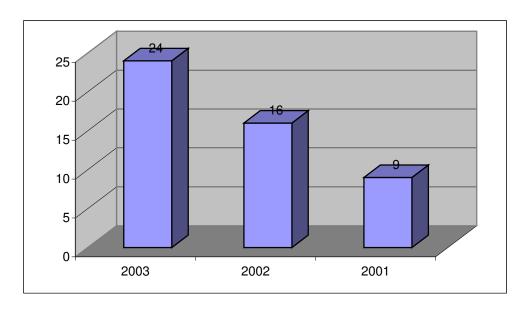
^{*}The statistics above are compiled based on Sheriff's Office data and does not include accidents worked by the Virginia State Police nor the Leesburg Police Department.

| Traffic Crashes | | | | |
|-----------------|------|------|------|--|
| | | | | |
| | 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | |
| Total Crashes | 5268 | 4462 | 4202 | |
| Fatalities | 24 | 16 | 9 | |
| Injuries | 1135 | 1040 | 889 | |

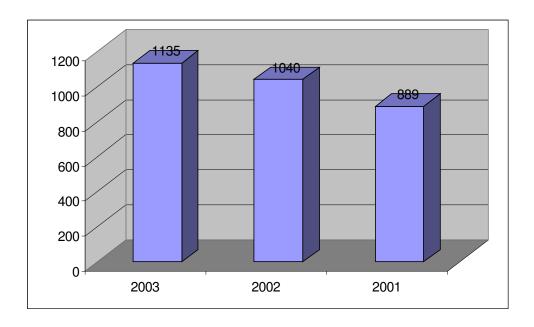
Total Crashes



Total Fatalities

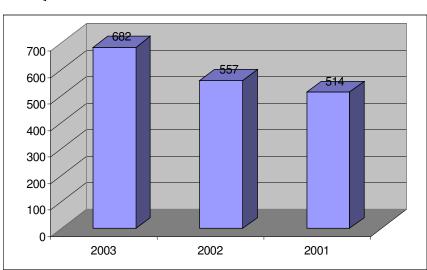


Total Injuries



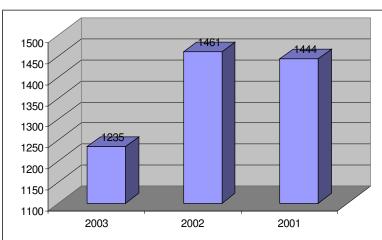
| DUI Arrests | | | |
|-------------|------|------|--|
| | | | |
| 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | |
| 682 | 557 | 514 | |





| Truck Enforcement | | | | |
|----------------------|------|------|--|--|
| | | | | |
| 2003 | 2002 | 2001 | | |
| 1235 | 1461 | 1444 | | |





Corrections

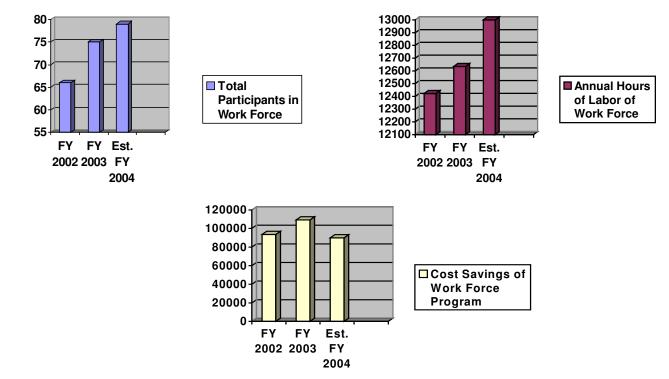
Sheriff's Office personnel manage the Adult Detention Center (ADC) and Work Release Center twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Staffing at the ADC is broken into two major components: Security personnel maintain the day-to-day security operations of the facility, while Program

Support personnel manage the Classification and Records Sections and conduct various programs such as Education, Recreation and Transportation. Personnel at the Work Release Center maintain day-to-day operations of the facility, operate the Work Force Program and conduct job checks on Work Release participants working in the community.

| Inmate Population | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|-----------------|--|
| | FY 2002 | FY 2003 | Est. FY 2004 | |
| Average Loudoun Inmate Population at ADC | 160 | 188 | 230 | |
| # of Inmates Bookings per Year | 4209 | 4476 | 4776 | |
| Number of Adult Transports by ADC Staff | 1872 | 1598 | 1691 | |
| Juvenile Transports | 815 | 61 | 65 | |

During 2003, the Sheriff's Office continued to participate with the Department of Corrections (DOC) Jail Contract Bed (JCB) Program. Through this program, the County houses those inmates approved by both the DOC and the Sheriff's Office Staff on the Work Release Program while collecting additional revenue. (The JCB Program does not create a burden on the current overcrowding at the Adult Detention

Center.) Despite continued screening, the Work Release Program has been unable to fill all available beds at the Work Release Center, due in part to the contract with the Peumansend Creek Regional Jail (PCRJ). Most inmates housed at PCRJ meet the minimum qualifications for the Work Release Program, leaving the ADC with a minimal amount of inmates who qualify for Work Release into the community.



2004 Objectives

2004 will be a year of significant challenges. The rapidly expanding population, homeland security concerns, escalating gang activity, and increasing traffic will severely tax our resources. Given the current budget climate, staffing will continue to be a concern. New and more efficient methods will be explored, that will include the following objectives:

- Proactively address gang-related activity and aggressively enforce gang-related criminal offenses.
- Implement new patrol sectors and CAD designators to more effectively deploy resources.
- Continue efforts to obtain sufficient numbers of qualified personnel to meet staffing needs.
- Fully implement electronic offense reporting to reduce deputy time on administrative tasks.

- Initiate construction of the new ADC and begin training staff in new operations protocols.
- Initiate construction of the Dulles South combined Sheriff/Fire & Rescue facility.
- Develop a false alarm reduction program proposal for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.
- Implement a Master Deputy Program to establish a non-supervisory career track.
- Establish a formalized emergency preparedness function that will coordinate departmental, local and regional efforts.

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office stands ready to meet the challenges of 2004 and beyond. With your help and support, Loudoun County will continue to be one of the safest communities in the country to live, work or visit.